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Musk's X Corp. Sues Authors of 'Disinformation Dozen' Report Over Alleged 'Scare Campaign'

X Corp., the parent company of the social media platform formerly known as Twitter, on Monday, sued the Center for Countering Digital Hate, alleging the group — "masquerading" as a legitimate research firm — illegally obtained data and used it in a "scare campaign" to deter advertisers from the platform.

By **Monica Dutcher**

38

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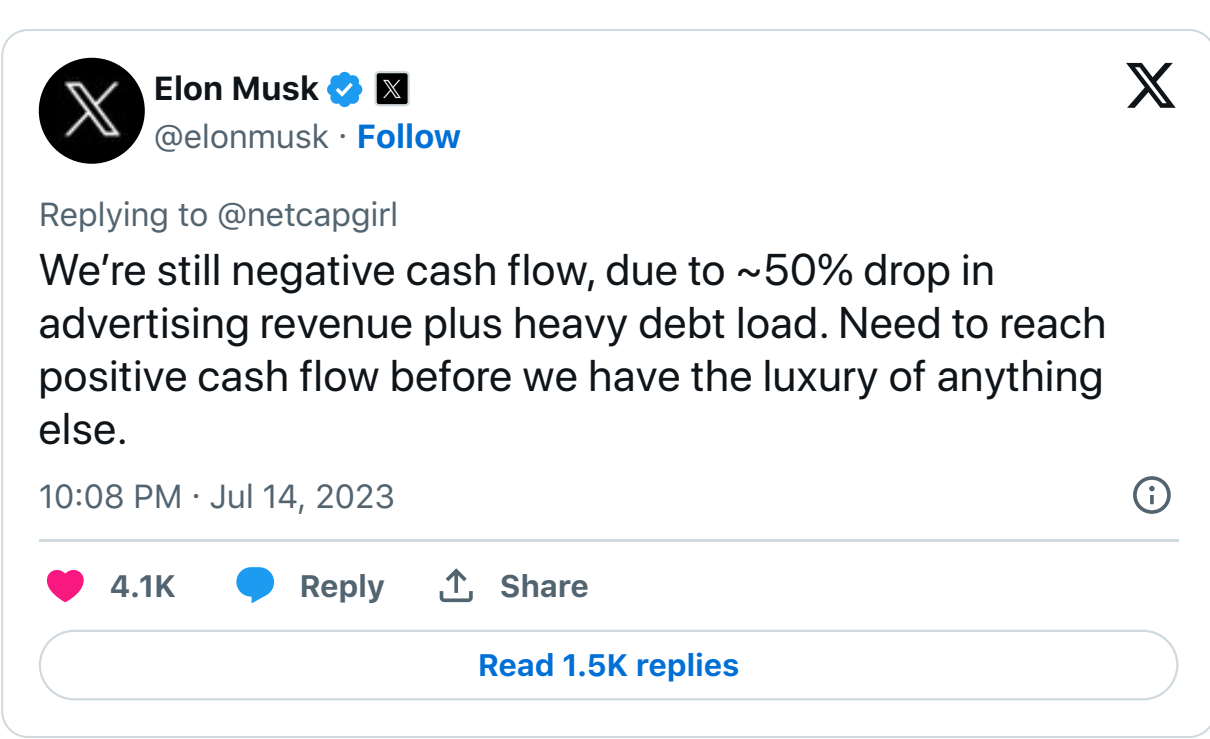
X Corp., the parent company of the social media platform formerly known as Twitter, on Monday sued the Center for Countering Digital Hate (CCDH), alleging the group "embarked on a scare campaign" to deter advertisers from the platform by "engaging in a series of unlawful acts designed to improperly gain access to protected X Corp. data."

Filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, the lawsuit accused CCDH of "masquerading" as a research agency and using improperly obtained login credentials to access company data.

According to the complaint, CCDH used the data to "cherry-pick from the hundreds of millions of posts made each day on X and falsely claim it had statistical support showing the platform is overwhelmed with harmful content."

X Corp. estimated it lost at least tens of millions of dollars in advertising revenue and other costs as a direct result of CCDH's actions.



Elon Musk @elonmusk · Follow

Replying to @netcapgirl

We're still negative cash flow, due to ~50% drop in advertising revenue plus heavy debt load. Need to reach positive cash flow before we have the luxury of anything else.

10:08 PM · Jul 14, 2023

4.1K Reply Share

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Citing CCDH's claims, Time magazine last month wrote that "during Musk's tenure, hate speech towards minority communities increased." Time quoted CCDH's director of research, Callum Hood, as saying, "Musk is not keeping his promises to advertisers, and their ads are appearing next to really harmful content."

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A U.K.-based nonprofit with operations in the U.S., CCDH is linked to at least nine dark money sources, according to a report by Sayer Ji of GreenMedInfo.

Despite claims by Imran Ahmed, CCDH's CEO and founder, that the organization has "never taken government money," at least one of its funders received U.K. government funding and many of its board members have U.K. government ties.

X Corp.'s lawsuit follows just weeks after Alex Spiro, an attorney representing X Corp., wrote in a letter to Ahmed that X Corp. was investigating whether CCDH's "false and misleading claims about Twitter are actionable under Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act."

Spiro wrote:

> "CCDH regularly posts articles making inflammatory, outrageous, and false or misleading assertions about Twitter and its operations, which CCDH holds out to the general public as supported by 'research.'"

He specifically called out a CCDH article that referenced "new research" showing Twitter "fails to act on 99% of hate posted by Twitter Blue subscribers," suggesting the platform is allowing them to break its rules "with impunity and is even algorithmically boosting their toxic tweets."

Spiro said:

> "Review of the article reveals that this 'research' was limited to tasking CCDH staff to report 100 individual tweets as violations of Twitter's rules, and then check whether those tweets had been removed or otherwise actioned four days later.
>
> "The article provides no methodology for its selection or testing of tweets, no baseline for Twitter's enforcement time frame, and no explanation as to why the 100 chosen tweets represent an appropriate sample of the nearly 500 million tweets sent per day from which to generalize about the platform's content moderation practices."

Ji recently wrote that this is "reminiscent of the hatchet job Imram's gang did with the so-called 'Disinformation Dozen' report it put out in 2021."

Ji told The Defender that Musk's lawsuit, "while self-interested, has profoundly positive implications for all U.S. citizens and their First Amendment rights" by calling out a "malign foreign influence operation" whose defamatory attacks against private individuals and entities have caused reputational and financial damage.

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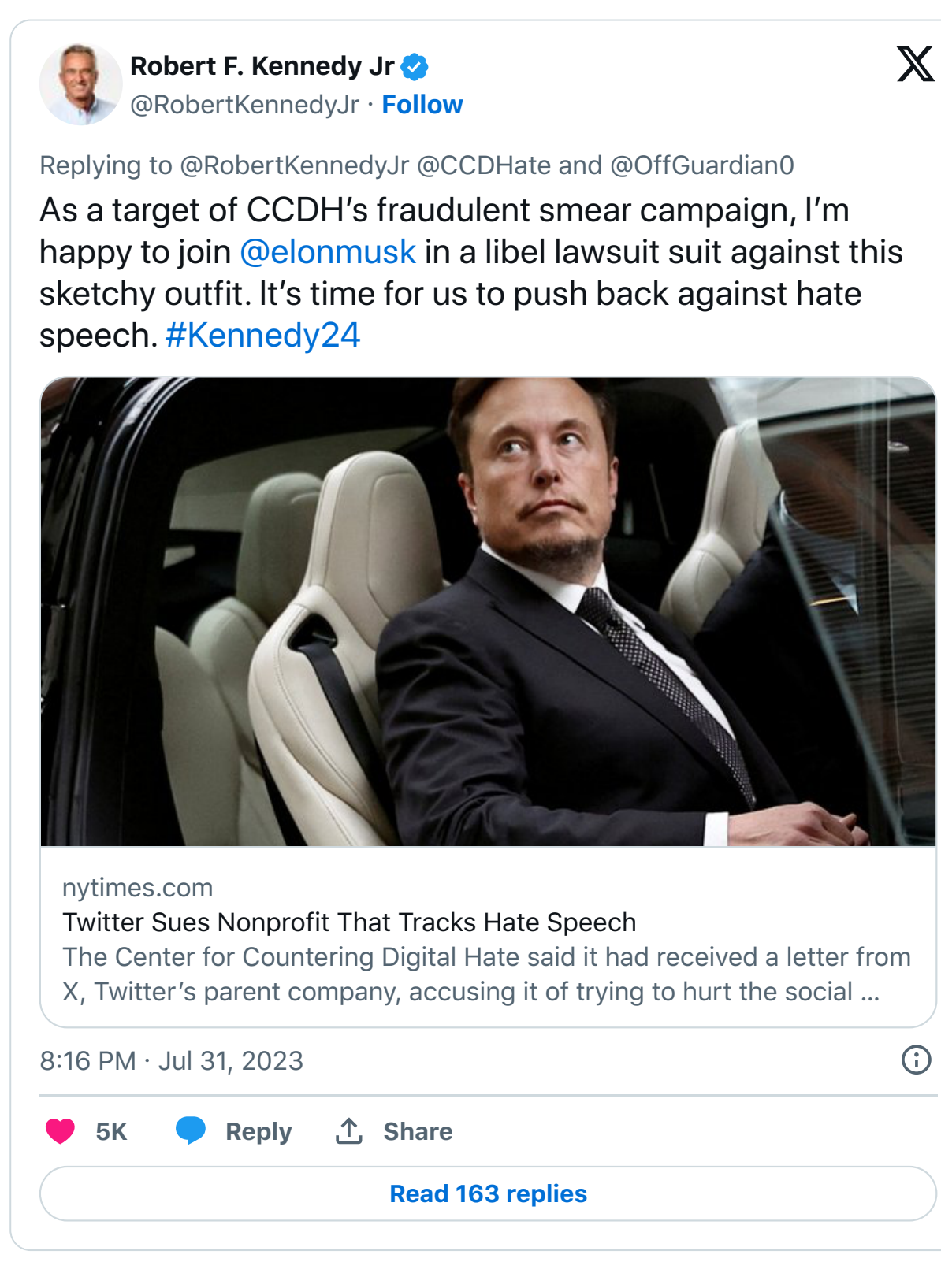
He said:

> "This lawsuit stands to put CCDH, their colluders in the U.S. media and government, as well as their dark money funders overseas, on notice that the laws of this land, and the U.S. Constitution which vivifies them, will not be trampled upon so disgracefully without a good fight."

CCDH, in its March 2021 report, alleged that 12 accounts produced the majority of "anti-vaccine disinformation" on social media.

Facebook investigated and dismissed the report, releasing a statement saying that "There isn't any evidence" to support the claims and that the small sample used in CCDH's analysis was "in no way representative of the hundreds of millions of posts that people have shared about COVID-19 vaccines."

Robert F. Kennedy Jr., chairman on leave from Children's Health Defense, was one of the 12 in CCDH's crosshairs. On Monday he tweeted:



Robert F. Kennedy Jr @RobertKennedyJr · Follow

Replying to @RobertKennedyJr @CCDHate and @OffGuardian0

As a target of CCDH's fraudulent smear campaign, I'm happy to join @elonmusk in a libel lawsuit suit against this sketchy outfit. It's time for us to push back against hate speech. #Kennedy24

nytimes.com
Twitter Sues Nonprofit That Tracks Hate Speech
The Center for Countering Digital Hate said it had received a letter from X, Twitter's parent company, accusing it of trying to hurt the social ...

8:16 PM · Jul 31, 2023

5K Reply Share

Read 163 replies

According to Variety, Ahmed provided the following statement about the lawsuit:

> "Elon Musk's latest legal move is straight out of the authoritarian playbook — he is now showing he will stop at nothing to silence anyone who criticizes him for his own decisions and actions.
>
> "Musk is trying to 'shoot the messenger' who highlights the toxic content on his platform rather than deal with the toxic environment he's created. CCDH has no intention of stopping our independent research — Musk will not bully us into silence."

According to Ji, "Mainstream media outlets are reporting on Musk's move in a negative light," which he said is "to be expected, given how they've worked in lock-step collusion with CCDH during previous campaigns, either attacking or defending on their behalf, without fail."

The Defender on occasion posts content related to Children's Health Defense's nonprofit mission that features Mr. Kennedy's views on the issues CHD and The Defender regularly cover. In keeping with Federal Election Commission rules, this content does not represent an endorsement of Mr. Kennedy, who is on leave from CHD and is seeking the Democratic nomination for president of the U.S.

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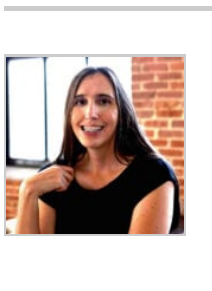

Monica Dutcher

Monica Dutcher is a Maryland-based senior reporter for The Defender.

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Got it

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1 • Share Best Newest Oldest

Notimetowaste
15 days ago
Good for you Elon. I hope you win this one!!
26 0 Reply • Share ›

Yohanna Derbyshire
15 days ago
Interesting that CCDH is hi-jacking the meanings of terms such as 'hate-speech' to further their own totalitarian censorship agenda. It's not X that is scouring the social media sites for material that it may just find offensive, but CCDH, and others supporting/propping up the psy-op known as the great reset. If organisations such as this are permitted to continue to hound, harass and indoctrinate, it will not be hard for the Davos boys to reach their goal without too much push-back from a dumbed-down global populace. This is the very reason why all voices should be heard and shared around freely. I know that there are many thousands of people alive today who would not have been BUT FOR the alternative health advice distributed widely through social media, and especially the work of such people as those accused as being the 'Misinformation Dozen'. Thank you Elon, RFK Jnr, Robert Malone, Joseph Mercola, Joe Rogan, Russell Brand, Jordan Peterson, Brett Weinstein and Heather Heying and so many other dedicated, intelligent and honest experts in their fields. Long may you be 'pure-bloods'. Essentially we are the last representatives of the actual 'human' race - not walking dna-altered test-tubes from a biolab .
23 0 Reply • Share ›

Key Lime Pie Guy → Yohanna Derbyshire
10 days ago
Perfect!!!!
0 0 Reply • Share ›

mikies123
15 days ago
I hope CCDH sinks. Many people were influenced by their posts who were carried by PBS and NPR.
21 0 Reply • Share ›

George Vetnar → mikies123
14 days ago
I guess you want a lot more injured and dead people by believing and promoting all of the lies about the supposed health benefits of the Covid Vaccines. How many more injured and dead vaccinated loved ones do we need? I live in researched truth and reality. Try it, you might like it. You can eat your way out of Covid and most any other disease, but you can't vaccinate your way out.
4 0 Reply • Share ›

Pley Doh → George Vetnar
14 days ago
George, I think you misread the post. Mikies is saying that CCDH is misleading people, not the other way around.
2 0 Reply • Share ›

Brian Collecott → mikies123
14 days ago
They lurk around online newspaper comments pages too getting anything they don't like blocked.
0 0 Reply • Share ›

kris
15 days ago
CCDH are the ones spewing hate speech and being authoritarian - they are also attempting to silence all of those disabled and injured by industrialized modern "medicine" - hope the general public can see through the lies - can't believe they reported on 100 tweets and considered that a hard day's work. This censorship is a joke.
20 0 Reply • Share ›

Brian Collecott → kris
14 days ago
Exactly. They most likely have people watching or registered on this website too.
1 0 Reply • Share ›

Pley Doh → kris
14 days ago
"projection"
1 0 Reply • Share ›

conscious1
15 days ago
To the woke mob, anything contrary to their ideological insanity is hate speech. Cancel culture exists because their false beliefs can't survive critical examination.
18 0 Reply • Share ›

Caroline Cary Davidson → conscious1
14 days ago
everything else is hate speech OR you're labeled "anti" whatever. I made this analogy the other day: I am admittedly not a 'pet person'. does that mean I'm "anti pet"? of course not, that's absurd. I question the entire premise of Woke; does that mean I'm anti-Woke (which is meant to mean that you are a racist homophobe or whatever else is the aggrieved group du jour)
4 0 Reply • Share ›

lakewoodsteve → Caroline Cary Davidson
14 days ago
SIX HIRB is Dennis Prager's acronym for the debate-ending names conservatives are called by liberals. If you disagree with the Left, you are one or all of the following -- Sexist, intolerant, xenophobic, homophobic, Islamophobic, racist, bigoted! Who is under attack, charged with fake SIXHIRB crimes! As Jesus taught some of us, telling the truth can get you hung!
2 0 Reply • Share ›

Brian Collecott → lakewoodsteve
14 days ago
It's tricky. We now have rabid Centrists posing as the 'Left'!
0 0 Reply • Share ›

Brian Collecott → Caroline Cary Davidson
14 days ago
The term 'woke' btw has been hijacted to equate with 'politically correct' in the extreme. Its original meaning was 'to be awake to what is really going on.'
1 0 Reply • Share ›

conscious1 → Brian Collecott
11 days ago
Woke is a term people self identified as out of an ego based need to be seen as morally superior because they had adopted the latest ideological fad without critical thought. Being politically correct is a prime motivation for being seen as the good tribe. That is the opposite of being awake to what is going on. Their indoctrinated programmed world view is a complete disconnect from how cause and effect works in the real world.
1 0 Reply • Share ›

conscious1 → Caroline Cary Davidson
14 days ago
Authoritarians need polarity to maintain a divide and conquer strategy because unity is what could bring them down. They need people to see things as good vs evil rather than examining how cause and effect brings everything into being. I try to be pro logic and reason rather than anti anything.
1 0 Reply • Share ›

tyrannystopper
15 days ago
Ahmed, then plays the victim card...
Typical.
Not a fan of Elon, I don't trust the guy.
But I hope he is successful at putting this "group" out of work and business.
18 0 Reply • Share ›

Pley Doh → tyrannystopper
14 days ago
The enemy of your enemy is your friend
1 0 Reply • Share ›

SuziAlkamyst → Pley Doh
10 days ago
only to some extent
1 0 Reply • Share ›

Nod → tyrannystopper
9 days ago
Agreed, it would be foolishness to trust any billionaire. Another group will pop up, funded by the bankers unfortunately.
0 0 Reply • Share ›

jewell
15 days ago
Those that were censored need to file (class action) suits against these jokers, the media and the companies that de-platformed them. Censorship hurts not only those whose speech was masks but also those who never got to hear the information that was silenced. How many people were harmed by censoring folks or hiding information? How many died because of it? We have the CCP and global parasites pulling the strings because of their friends in high places in governments, their infiltration and long march through academic institutions, and their financial control over corporations. Like many, I don't trust Musk - but he is applying the pressure that needs to be applied. Now is the time to tighten the screws. Just look what has happened in the past when we tolerated and ignored such actions.
As Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn wrote in the Gulag Archipelago : What kind of disastrous path lies ahead of us if we do not have the chance to purge ourselves of the putrefaction rotting inside our body?
12 0 Reply • Share ›

QuentonQuale
14 days ago
The CCDH is the worst kind of scum. Gov't and corporations hiding behind Ahmed, who probably collects a tidy sum for doing their bidding. I hope Musk burns them to the ground and reveals the backers. Captured media groups like NPR used the false stories put out by Ahamed's backers knowing full well it was fabricated trash.
8 0 Reply • Share ›

Brian Collecott → QuentonQuale
14 days ago
Yes it's disgusting. At one time you could be blocked from The Indpendent Online comments page for simply mentioning Ivermectin or vaccine injury.
0 0 Reply • Share ›

Ricky Ricardo
15 days ago
Center for **C**ensorship **D**emoralization and **H**arassment!
8 0 Reply • Share ›

Caroline Cary Davidson
14 days ago
Since when is filing lawsuits from the 'authoritarian playbook'? Authoritarians don't play by the rules, as a rule. they play mind & power games.
the CCDH bull**** 'Ministry of Truth's statement smacks of school yard taunts: 'I know I am so what are you?'. classic projection of accusing the other of exactly what THEY are doing, like the cheating spouse constantly accusing the other spouse of cheating.
instead of defending the veracity of their supposed research, the scumbag just flings poo.
although Musk is somewhat of a mixed bag for us freedom folks, I support his fighting back. why shouldn't his business be allowed to succeed? why should he put up with bold faced lies and distortions? he shouldn't. and US law says he doesn't have to. besides, no one is forced to be on Twitter (I'm not and never will be) - if you don't like what's on Twitter, stop looking at it or participating in it. easy peasy.
5 0 Reply • Share ›

Voyt Regnal → Caroline Cary Davidson
14 days ago
People are allowed for blabbing whatever they want on twitter (now 'X'). But the caravan of eugenic, depopulating globalists moves forward regardless. They DO NOT CARE. 🤪😡😤
2 0 Reply • Share ›

chris
15 days ago
in the meantime Heiko Schoening equally exposing the covid crimes just had this interview: https://www.kla.tv/index.ph...
"Fact-Checkers" paid by secret services
that's the english translation..
3 0 Reply • Share ›

Guido Vandeven
15 days ago
Bring your great sink into the courtroom and flush this WC.CDH once and for all
3 0 Reply • Share ›

PonyBoy
14 days ago
Propaganda pollutes any attempt at Democracy.
It must die if we are ever to be a "free" people.
2 0 Reply • Share ›

SYakoban
15 days ago
Please don't mistake this as the work of some hero, musk is not. It's definitely about cashflow in his direction and his bruised ego.

It would be great for CCDH to be shut down as a result though, but a replacement will be spun up quickly if that happens.
5 3 Reply • Share ›

Kitty Ca'at → SYakoban
15 days ago
When was the last time you defended free speech by giving up that much money? Or any money?
10 1 Reply • Share ›

tyrannystopper → SYakoban
15 days ago
Glad to see not everyone is buying the ELON is a good guy routine.
He isn't.
4 0 Reply • Share ›

chris
15 days ago
this is X unrelated, but remotely with the entire disaster we got here, even longer than just the last 3 years (Already!!).. Ukraine has these biotech labs funded by among others US gov. Biden family is involved in that part too, I think. What comes now from Ukraine is a child trafficking 'chain" leading to company named Chemonics:
https://www.bitchute.com/vi...
from today's report at : https://uncutnews.ch/neue-v...
That's the same company who 'helping' in many other countries, and also collaborates with IBM:
https://www.ibm.com/service...
Who else could be involved??
2 1 Reply • Share ›

Pley Doh
14 days ago
Elon is doing some good and some bad. Me thinks he's a wolf in sheep's clothing. Neuralink implanted chips combined with digital ID's and other implanted chips in the hand sound an awful lot like the mark of the beast to me

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